GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4429
ANSWERED ON:18.12.2000
EFFECT OF FLY ASH ON CROPS
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Council of Agricultural Research have conducted any studies regarding effect of fly ash on some crops;

(b) if so, whether the fly ash contains toxic and heavy metals affecting adversely on the health of soil;

(c) whether the results of long term studies under the Mission Project have since been received;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which the findings of the studies are likely to be submitted to the Government?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Fly ash contains toxic/heavy metals such as nickel, cadmium and lead which may affect the soil health adversely in the long run.

(c), (d) & (e) : The Department of Science & Technology is implementing a Mission Mode project on fly ash to explore its use in various fields, including agriculture. The preliminary studies under Department of Science & Technology project indicated an average yield increase of the order of 15-20%.